

American Government
Mr. DeFelices
2019

THIS CLASS IS A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT!

Electronic Devices:

When the bell rings:

1. Cell phones are out of sight, unless I say we need them!
2. Ipads are placed under your desk unless otherwise noted.
3. Headphones are out of sight, not around your neck.

Course Description:

American government focuses on the creation of governments, the formation of our government, the structure of our government, how our government functions, politic, the Electoral College and the role of American citizens. The goal is for you, as young adults, to learn about our government and gain a much stronger understanding and respect for it.

Materials: (everyday)

- Notebook
- Pen or Pencil – it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to bring a writing utensil to class
- Charged IPAD!! This is a necessary classroom resource!!!! No excuses.

Books:

A book will be provided to you.

Expectations:

When the bell rings, class has begun. Stop talking, cell phones and ipads put aside and do what you are assigned to do. (Bell Ringer on the board)

Bell Ringers:

Everyday as you walk in, you will follow the directions on the board or PPT screen . Class begins when the bell rings (IN YOUR SEAT AND SILENT!)

Grading:

Course grades are maintained in PowerSchool where both students and parents/guardians can view them at any time during the quarter. This course will use the grading scale provided for you in the student handbook.

Assessment:

Each chapter will consist of several in class assignments, perhaps a small project, a review and a quiz/test.

Attendance:

You are a high school senior now; you are responsible for making up your work. You miss a day; you track down your assignments. **I will not track you down day after day!**

Eating and Drinking:

Eating and drinking will **NOT** be permitted

Teaching Philosophy:

I believe in a very open style of classroom. I expect students to be very comfortable sharing opinions and perspectives on a multitude of topics. Discussions, debates, and dialogue are all part of this class. Student participation is critical in the success of the course. I will always respect your opinions and allow you to fully explain yourself as long as it is appropriate and there is no intent just to start an argument or act inappropriate. Secondly, I will purposely play devils advocate in an attempt to open your minds to different perspectives on particular issues. Being able to express your beliefs in a respectful, intelligent manner is a skill that will serve you well for the rest of your life. Start now!

Units

1. Origin and the purpose of government
2. Origins of the American government
3. Dissecting the Constitution
4. American politics and political parties
5. The Electoral College
6. The Legislative Branch
7. The Executive Branch
8. The Judicial Branch
9. The Amendments

Social Studies Department

1. Take pride in your own work
2. Use technology as directed by your teacher
3. Manage your time for success
4. Do not assume the assignment has no value
5. Do not copy work from another student
6. Do not share test information with classmates

BRAVE Expectations

See the poster by my door!

Signature Page

Please review the American Government course policies with your student and return this page, signed and dated, to Mr. Gerba indicating it was reviewed and accepted.

X _____ student name (PRINT)

X _____ student signature

X _____ parent/guardian name
(PRINT)

X _____ parent/guardian signature

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Should I ever need to contact you, please indicate your preferred method of communication and the information I will need.

Parent/Guardian email address:

Daytime Phone (7:00am-3:00pm):

Name(s) of parent/guardian to contact:

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone?

STUDENT email address:

@